

CLAIMS:

1. A dog treat, chew or toy comprising acetic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 5 2. The dog treat, chew or toy of claim 1, comprising a vegetable chew.
3. The dog treat, chew or toy of claim 1, comprising a rawhide chew.
4. The dog treat, chew or toy of claim 1, comprising a nylon bone.
5. The dog treat, chew or toy of claim 1, wherein the dog treat, chew or toy comprises dental floss wound up or thread together to make a treat, chew or toy.
- 10 6. The dog treat, chew or toy of claim 1, wherein the acetic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is coated on or included in a treat, chew or toy.
7. The dog treat, chew or toy of claim 1, further comprising sodium hexametaphosphate.
8. A dental composition comprising acetic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and sodium hexametaphosphate.
- 15 9. The composition of claim 8, wherein the dental composition is a dental product selected from the group consisting of a toothpaste, a tooth gel, a tooth cream, a tooth powder, dentifrice, oral spray, a chewable tablet, a chewable tablet coating, a chewing gum, a mouth freshener, a mouthwash, a mouth rinse, a flush, a plaster, a toothpick, a dental floss, a dental wipe and a dental pack.
- 20 10. The composition of claim 8, comprising about 0.1% to about 5% acetic acid, preferably about 1% acetic acid.
11. The composition of claim 8, comprising about 0.05% sodium hexametaphosphate.
12. The composition of claim 8, further comprising a fluorine providing compound.
13. The composition of claim 8, further comprising a flavoring agent.
- 25 14. The composition of claim 8, further comprising a colorant.
15. The composition of claim 8, further comprising an abrasive.
16. A method of treating or preventing a dental disease in a subject comprising providing an effective amount of a composition comprising acetic acid and sodium hexametaphosphate and applying said composition to the teeth and gums of the subject.
- 30 17. The method of claim 16 wherein the dental disease comprises plaque, caries, gingivitis, periodontitis, calculus, tartar, tooth decay, tooth discoloration, or combinations thereof.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein the subject is human or animal.
19. A method of brightening and cleansing teeth in a subject comprising providing an effective amount of a composition comprising acetic acid and sodium hexametaphosphate and applying said composition to the teeth and gums of the subject.

5      20. The method of claim 19, wherein the subject is human or animal.